Conservation Hunting
Namibia Communal Area
Conservancies

Maxi Louis
NACSO DIRECTOR
Presentation Content

- Legal basis of conservancies
- Achievements
- Case study
- Challenges
Background

Population: 2,555,446
Size: 823,400 km²
Independence: 1990
Income: $5,870 (per cap GNI, 2013)
Male: 49.7%
Female: 50.3%
Community Conservation in Namibia
Where have we come from & where are we going?
Rights granted:

- Rights of Ownership over hunttable game
- Rights to revenues from the Sale of Game or Game Products
- Rights to Tourism.
A Namibian CBNRM Programme which empowers present and future generations to manage integrated wildlife and other natural resources as a recognised and valued rural development option.
NACSO – NATIONAL SUPPORT STRUCTURE COMMUNITY CONSERVATION

Communal Area Residents

Conservancies

NACSO Secretariat

Conservancy Association/s

CBNRM Program
Conservancy Achievements

- Three pillars of the Namibia CBNRM Program:
  - Natural Resources Management
  - Institutional Development & Governance
  - Business, Enterprises, & Livelihoods
Natural Resources Management

Conservation Achievements:

- Increasing Wildlife Populations
- Large Landscape Connectivity
LION RANGE EXPANSION IN NORTH WEST NAMIBIA

Lion range in 1995

Lion range in relation to conservancies at present

- Lion range
- State protected areas
- Lion range
- High density
- Medium density
- Low density / temporary range
- Communal conservancies
AREA UNDER CONSERVATION

13.0%

43.8%
Game Population Trends

Elephant
- 1995: 7,600
- 2018: 23,000

Black Rhino
- 1980: Near extinct
- 2018: Largest free-roaming population in world
Zambezi Wildlife Sightings
Game Count 2016

North West Predator Sightings
Game Count 2016

Elephant range Kunene

Elephant range in relation to conservancies at present
WILDLIFE CORRIDORS AND EXPANDING AREAS UNDER CONSERVATION
Institutional Development & Governance

- 83 Elected Governance Structures
- 8 Regional Conservancy and Communal Forest Association
- National Conservancy Forum
- Represents 1 of every 11 Namibian Citizens
- Strong Gender Empowerment
Business, Enterprises & Livelihoods

Sustainable Wildlife Use

Joint Venture Lodges

Campsites, crafts, guiding, info centres, Natural Plant Products
Conservation Hunting
WHAT ARE NAMIBIA’S COMPARATIVE ADVANTAGES?

- VAST OPEN SPACES AND WILDERNESS AREAS
- ABUNDANT AND DIVERSE BIODIVERSITY AND WILDLIFE POPULATIONS that are well adapted to Namibia’s harsh climatic and physical conditions, and have extremely high direct & indirect use value.
- UNCONTAMINATED MEAT AND FISH PRODUCTS
- Rich CULTURAL diversities and valuable TRADITIONAL KNOWLEDGE
- Efficient SERVICE Industries
Enabling environment for Conservation Hunting

- Government that supports trophy hunting
- Good laws – well regulated
- High level of ethics and professionalism
- Excellent organization i.e. NAPHA (responsible members)
- Privilege to hunt in conservancies and conservation areas
- Wide variety of species
- Wilderness, vastness and open spaces
- Additional activities or interests for hunters - i.e. National Parks/Fishing
- Community involvement and programmes
- Security and infrastructure
How does hunting benefit conservation?

Hunting Generates
Meat, Money & Jobs

Wildlife Increases

People Benefit

People:
Tolerate Wildlife
Encourage Wildlife
Protect Wildlife
HUNTING IN CONSERVANCIES

- Partnership – Win-Win relationship
- Mostly a very good relationship between conservancy and concessionaire
- Conservancies earn a good income
- Pro-active initiative from Conservancy i.e. Anti-Poaching, Development
- Meat to members – Huge positive to foreign hunters and international community
- Willingness and desire from community members to learn and develop themselves
- Realization that not all conservancies suitable for hunting i.e. Marienfluss/Impalila
Hunting case study: N#aJagna Conservancy
To achieve this, the conservancy will:

- Manage wildlife in accordance with conservation principles and enable members of the conservancy to derive benefits through the consumptive and non-consumptive utilization of wildlife in the conservancy.
- Ensure that benefits are well managed and distributed equitable and fairly to the members of the conservancy.
- Income from hunting will be used for conservancy running cost and provide benefit to members: the allocation to these will be agreed annually at conservancy AGM.
- Meat - All 25 villages, member, household
- Training Staff, management committee, game guards and community members.
- Transport - members
- Natural resources - Members and non members.
- Pre primary and primary schools and kindergartens - Management committee to purchase food supplies and deliver it at various schools.
- Clean healthy environment for NJC community.
- Purchase of 40 fuel cans and transport of fuel - 20 villages collecting from Tsumkwe and delivering of Government fuel to villages.
- Community development assistance to the custodians of the land.
- Funeral benefit
- Additional funds will be placed into an investment account for the members and an investment account for the conservancy in order to ensure continued operation and well being of the conservancy and its members and the Human wild life conflict account to maintain all four bank accounts.
Challenges

- Lack of experience of conservancy committee in terms of hunting contract negotiations, amendments, extension of contracts before the contract has expired, in the future need involvement of MET, WWF, LAC to give legal advise to the committee during contract signing and negotiation of hunting contracts for the benefit of the conservancy.

- Main challenge is that the conservancy is invaded by illegal fences and settlers which shows that the core-wild life areas areas is currently affected by illegal activities. We need support from different stakeholders in this matter.

- Non payment form previous operators

- Need for legal advice before signing the contract

- Buffer zone between the two conservancies
Challenges Facing the Programme

- Human wildlife conflict
- Drought
- Hunting issues
- Poaching
- Funding support
- Land use
COMMUNITY CONSERVATION at the heart of Namibia’s **economy and future** development plans
Conclusion:
Progress has been good to date -
But we still have a way to go!

Thank you!